

Removing the last minimal morse code requirement from the Amateur Radio tests would, in my opinion, be a mistake. Aside from the historical significance of morse code as a communication medium, it still has proven to be a viable, useful and popular mode among existing hams. Further, the morse code testing requirement serves as the only meaningful and marginally difficult hurdle to Amateur Radio licensing. Eliminating that requirement will further dilute the testing requirements to a point that they no longer serve a meaningful function, as the morse code test is the only portion of the testing requirement which can't be simply memorized. People tend not to appreciate those things which are easily gained. Further diluting the Amateur Radio licensing requirements, in my opinion, would bring the amateur radio service closer to the level of other unlicensed radio uses which have proven to be a thorn in the side of legitimate users and the FCC's enforcement activities.

I urge you to consider the financial interests of the sponsors of this request and reject the petition to remove morse code as a licensing requirement.